

To: The Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly
From: The American Academy of Pediatrics, Connecticut Chapter
Date: March 5, 2012

Re: HB 5348 AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL NURSES AND SCHOOL MEDICAL ADVISORS

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Connecticut Chapter supports this bill as a necessary improvement in school health services, and a clarification of the role of school medical advisors. Over the years our School Health Committee has been working very closely with the Department of Education, and with the Connecticut School Nurses Association, to improve the provision of health services in schools, and to maximize the coordination and collaboration between school health providers and children's primary care providers.

We would suggest the following changes to the language of the bill.

In Section 2 line 23 please add the American Academy of Pediatrics, Connecticut Chapter

In Section 3 modify subsection (a) as outlined below, and delete all the new language in the subsequent subsections (b) (c) (d) and (e). Those specific details are left best to guidelines and regulations of the Department of Education.

56 communicable disease control.] work with the local or regional board
57 of education that appointed such school medical advisor and the board
58 of health or health department for the school district under the
59 jurisdiction of such board to (1) plan and administer the health
60 program for each school, as described in subsection (b) of this section,
61 (2) ADVISE ON THE provide PROVISION OF school health services, as
62 described in subsection (c) of this
63 section, (3) provide consultation on the school health environment, as
64 described in subsection (d) of this section, and (4) perform other
duties THAT MAY BE AGREED ON BY THE SCHOOL MEDICAL ADVISOR
AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION as described in subsection (e) of this
section.

These changes will have the effect of bringing up to date an anachronistic statute and clarifying the important role of school medical advisor.

Please don't hesitate to call me or Judy Blei if you have any questions
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